

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-13, 15-17 and 19-20 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 3, 4-7, 9, 13, 15-17 and 19-20 are amended, and Claims 3, 8, 14 and 18 are canceled.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication on page 2 of the Office Action that Claims 8 and 18-20 contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of allowable Claim 8 and intervening Claim 3, and independent Claim 13 has been amended to include the allowable features of 18 and intervening Claim 14. As such, independent Claims 1 and 13 are allowable. All of the remaining Claims depend from Claims 1 and 13 and recite further advantageous features which further distinguish over the present application.

Should there be questions regarding the above, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted at the number shown below.

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 12, 2004

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